In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A method for determining whether a radio frequency identification device is detected, the method comprising:

selecting a plurality of different antenna patterns, each antenna pattern configured to receive a signal corresponding to an independent variable ~~from a predetermined multiplicity of antenna patterns~~;

determining a plurality of ~~binary~~ results each responsive to whether a respective communication link provides a respective signal having a respective amplitude exceeding a respective threshold, each communication link operative in accordance with at least one of the selected antenna patterns;

selecting, from a plurality of predetermined logical combinations ~~methods, a method for forming~~ a logical combination; and

determining whether ~~that~~ the radio frequency identification device is detected in accordance with ~~performing~~ the ~~method to form a~~ logical combination and in accordance with the plurality of ~~binary~~ results.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein each respective threshold is equal to a common threshold value.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the respective communication links comprises:

a. a receiver; and

b. an antenna coupled to the receiver, wherein the antenna and the receiver cooperate in accordance with the respective antenna pattern.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one of the respective communication links comprises:

a. a transmitter; and

b. an antenna coupled to the transmitter, wherein the antenna and the transmitter cooperate in accordance with the respective antenna pattern.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein each selected antenna pattern has a different polarization.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein each selected antenna pattern has a different direction of maximum effectiveness as an antenna.

7. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one ~~of the predetermined methods provides the~~ logical combination operates in accordance with a logical OR of at least two of the plurality of ~~binary~~ results.

8. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one ~~of the predetermined methods provides the~~ logical combination operates in accordance with a logical AND of at least two of the plurality of ~~binary~~ results.

9. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein R1, R2, R3, and R4 represent four results of the plurality of ~~binary~~ results, and at least one ~~of the predetermined methods provides the~~ logical combination operates in accordance with the logical expression: (R1 OR R2) AND (R3 OR R4).

10. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein R1, R2, R3, and R4 represent four results of the plurality of ~~binary~~ results, and at least one ~~of the predetermined methods provides the~~ logical combination operates in accordance with the logical expression: (R1 AND R2) OR (R3 AND R4).

11. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 wherein at least one ~~of the predetermined methods provides the~~ logical combination operates in accordance with whether a sum of the plurality of ~~binary~~ results exceeds a predetermined quantity.

12. (Previously presented) A memory comprising indicia of instructions for performing the method of claim 1 by a data processing circuit.

13. (Currently amended) An object identification system comprising:

      means for selecting a plurality of different antenna patterns, each antenna pattern configured to receive a signal corresponding to an independent variable ~~from a predetermined multiplicity of antenna patterns~~;

      means for determining a plurality of ~~binary~~ results each responsive to whether a respective communication link provides a respective signal having a respective amplitude exceeding a respective threshold, each communication link operative in accordance with at least one of the selected antenna patterns;

      means for selecting, from a plurality of predetermined logical combinations ~~methods~~, a ~~method for forming~~ a logical combination; and

      means for determining whether ~~that~~ the radio frequency identification device is detected in accordance with ~~performing~~ the ~~method to form a~~ logical combination and in accordance with the plurality of ~~binary~~ results.

14. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13 wherein R1, R2, R3, and R4 represent four results of the plurality of ~~binary~~ results, and at least one ~~of the predetermined methods provides the~~ logical combination operates in accordance with the logical expression: (R1 OR R2) AND (R3 OR R4).

15. (Currently amended) The system of claim 13 wherein R1, R2, R3, and R4 represent four results of the plurality of ~~binary~~ results, and at least one ~~of the predetermined methods provides the~~ logical combination operates in accordance with the logical expression: (R1 AND R2) OR (R3 AND R4).

16. (Currently amended) A method for determining whether an identification device is detected, the method performed by a monitor in a system having a diversity for communication between the monitor and the identification device, the method comprising:

   providing indicia of a plurality of independent variables according to the diversity;

   determining a plurality of ~~binary~~ results comprising a respective ~~binary~~ result for each independent variable;

   selecting, from a plurality of predetermined <u>logical combinations</u> ~~methods, a method for forming~~ a logical combination; and

   determining <u>whether</u> ~~that~~ the identification device is detected in accordance with ~~performing~~ the ~~method to form a~~ logical combination <u>and</u> in accordance with the plurality of ~~binary~~ results.

17. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the diversity comprises communication media diversity.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the plurality of independent variables comprises a first independent variable responsive to electric field energy and a second independent variable responsive to magnetic field energy.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the diversity comprises communication directional diversity.

20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the diversity comprises communication signal magnitude diversity.

21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20 wherein the plurality of independent variables comprises a first independent variable responsive to signals in a first range of magnitude and a second independent variable responsive to signals in a second range of magnitude.

22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the diversity comprises communication signal polarization diversity.

23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the diversity comprises communication signal timing diversity.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the plurality of independent variables comprises a first independent variable responsive to line of sight communication and a second independent variable responsive to reflected communication.

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 23 wherein the plurality of independent variables comprises respective independent variables responsive to repeated communication.

26. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the diversity comprises communication signal modulation diversity.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the diversity comprises communication via redundant elements of the system.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 27 wherein redundant elements respectively perform a common function in parallel.

29. (Previously presented) A memory comprising indicia of instructions for performing the method of claim 16 by a data processing circuit.

30. (Currently amended) An object identification system that determines whether an identification device is detected, the system comprising:

     means for providing a diversity for communication with the identification device;

means for providing indicia of a plurality of independent variables according to the diversity;

means for determining a plurality of ~~binary~~ results comprising a respective ~~binary~~ result for each independent variable;

means for selecting, from a plurality of predetermined <u>logical combinations</u> ~~methods, a method for forming~~ a logical combination; and

means for performing the ~~method to form a~~ logical combination in accordance with the plurality of ~~binary~~ results to determine <u>whether</u> ~~that~~ the identification device is detected.